Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph bridging pages 46 and 47 of the specification with the following amended paragraph:

In one general embodiment of the present invention, cDNA strands are synthesized from a collection of mRNAs using an oligonucleotide primer complex. If the target mRNA is the entire mRNA population, then the primer can be a polythymidylate region (e.g., about 5 to 25, preferably about 18-21 T residues), which will bind with the poly(A) tail present on the 3' terminus of each mRNA. Alternatively, if only a preselected mRNA is to be amplified, then the primer will be substantially complementary to a section of the chosen mRNA, typically at the 3' terminus. The promoter region is located upstream of the primer at its 5' terminus in an orientation permitting transcription with respect to the mRNA population utilized. When the second cDNA strand is synthesized, the promoter sequence will be in correct orientation in that strand to initiate RNA synthesis using that second cDNA strand as a template. Preferably, the promoter region is derived from a prokaryote, and more preferably from the group consisting of SP6, T3 and T7 phages (Chamberlin and Ryan, in The Enzymes, ed. P. Boyer (Academic Press, New York) pp. 87-108 (1982), which is incorporated herein by reference). A preferred promoter region is one that contains an arbitrary sequence (here for example, part of the M13 forward priming site) 5' to the consensus T7 promoter sequence." (5' AAA CGA CGG CCA GTG AAT TGT AAT ACG ACT CAC TAT AGG GAG A 3') (SEQ ID NO:1).